

**REMARKS**

Claims 19, 21-24, 26-29 and 31-33 remain pending in the application.

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider earlier rejections in light of the following amendments and remarks. No new issues are raised nor is further search required as a result of the changes and remarks made herein. Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

**Claims 19, 21-24, 26-29 and 31-33 over Tanno and Oehrke**

Claims 19, 21-24, 26-29 and 31-33 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over J.P. Patent Publication No. 10307782A to Tanno ("Tanno") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 7,047,300 to Oehrke ("Oehrke"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claims 19 and 21-23 recite, *inter alia*, a load balancer module **associated with a message router** to determine a **historical record** for a plurality of protocol gateways comprising a **least RECENTLY used protocol gateway** supporting a protocol of a source of a message. Claims 24, 26-29 and 31-33 recite, *inter alia*, determining **from a message router** a **historical record** for a plurality of protocol gateways comprising a **least RECENTLY used protocol gateway** supporting protocol of a source of a message, and routing the message based on the determined least recently used protocol gateway.

Tanno's Abstract teaches:

The system consists of gateways (2A-2N) through which clients (3A-3N) accesses the main server (1). A gateway management server (4) is provided which stores the load conditions and load factors of each gateway. The usage condition of the gateways are determined using the database. Whenever a client requests a gateway connection for accessing the server, a communication unit (42) in management server directs the client towards the gateway having minimum load.

Tanno teaches **REAL-TIME** monitoring of gateway load conditions and load factors to direct a client request to a gateway having minimum load. However, Tanno fails to teach determination of a **historical record** for a plurality of protocol gateways, much less that is comprised of a **least RECENTLY used**

protocol gateway, as a basis from which to route a message. Tanno fails to disclose, teach or suggest a load balancer module associated with a message router to determine a historical record for a plurality of protocol gateways comprising a least RECENTLY used protocol gateway supporting a protocol of a source of a message; and determining from a message router a historical record for a plurality of protocol gateways comprising a least RECENTLY used protocol gateway supporting protocol of a source of a message, and routing the message based on the determined least recently used protocol gateway, as respectively recited by claims 19, 21-24, 26-29 and 31-33.

Moreover, Tanno teaches a management server which stores load a condition and load factor for each gateway, with the management server directs a client towards the gateway having a minimum load. Tanno fails to mention a message router, much less disclose, teach or suggest the claimed features being performed by or associated with a message router, as claimed.

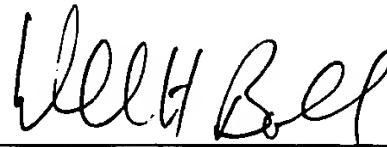
Oehrke was relied on to allegedly disclose an authenticator to authenticate that a particular source of a message is an authorized user of a messaging network before a message is routed by a message router. (see Office Action, page 4) Thus, even taking into consideration Oehrke's alleged teaching, Tanno and Oehrke, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest a load balancer module associated with a message router to determine a historical record for a plurality of protocol gateways comprising a least RECENTLY used protocol gateway supporting a protocol of a source of a message; and determining from a message router a historical record for a plurality of protocol gateways comprising a least RECENTLY used protocol gateway supporting protocol of a source of a message, and routing the message based on the determined least recently used protocol gateway, as respectively recited by claims 19, 21-24, 26-29 and 31-33.

For at least all the above reasons, claims 19, 21-24, 26-29 and 31-33 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

**Conclusion**

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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